



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: November 6, 2018
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation 568-3064
SUBJECT: East Mountain Drive Rockfall Attenuator Project; County Project No. 18104C;
First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute the attached License Agreement with the City of Santa Barbara, to allow for the construction of East Mountain Drive Rockfall Attenuator Project; County Project No. 18104C in the First Supervisorial District;
- b) Authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise for bids to construct the East Mountain Drive Rockfall Attenuator Project; County Project No. 18104C; First Supervisorial District; and
- c) Find that the proposed following emergency project is exempt from the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act. Projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing highway damaged by fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide, and is initiated within one year of the damage occurring and that the proposed project is therefore exempt from California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to 14 CCR 15269 (d) and approve the filing of the attached Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to authorize execution of the License Agreement with the City of Santa Barbara (CITY) and approve the project so it can be advertised for construction.

The proposed project is located on East Mountain Drive, approximately 3350 feet northwest of Ashley Road, in Montecito. Public Works is working with the CITY to allow the construction of a long-term solution to the rockfall hazard that destabilized the upslope embankment and damaged roadway surfacing at the project site. The project proposes to construct a rockfall attenuator system along the

slope as well as a flexible rockfall barrier at the roadway elevation. The combination of these two installations will reduce potential rockfall impacts to the travelling public. The rockfall attenuator system will have an elevated entrance to capture the majority of rockfall from the unstable slope high above the roadway and allow for ease of clean-up and repairs to the system. The flexible rockfall barrier acts as a catchment for all rockfall caught in the attenuator system, as well as a secondary barrier should the slope sustain a large magnitude rockfall event. Approximately 84 linear feet of existing roadway embankment will be protected by this system, which is the width of the current rockfall chute.



View of East Mountain Drive, looking north, showing rockfall from intense prolonged rain events in February 2017. The embankment slope above the roadway was denuded of vegetation as a result of the Thomas Fire and experienced rockfall events as a result of the fire and the debris flow that followed.

The attached License Agreement is discussed below and is recommended for execution to formalize each partnering agency's responsibilities.

License Agreement

The License Agreement was developed by the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Santa Barbara, collectively referred to as the "Parties". The Agreement between the Parties is necessary to allow for the East Mountain Drive Rockfall Attenuator Project to be designed and constructed as part of the ongoing repair projects designated for East Mountain Drive as a result of the Thomas Fire and subsequent debris flow disaster events.

Under this License Agreement, the County's responsibilities include:

- To serve as Responsible Agency for the project for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to obtain all necessary permits required to perform the work.
- Provide preliminary engineering, environmental, right-of-way, utility coordination, and construction engineering services.

- To bid the project for construction, award a construction contract, and serve as administering agency for construction and management of the scope, cost and schedule of the project to complete construction.
- Assume maintenance and repair responsibilities of the completed project.

The origin of the rockslide is on private property approximately 300 feet above the roadway. A rockfall chute has developed which continues onto the City-owned Gould Park property (location of Cold Spring Trail), then deposits on East Mountain Drive, which is maintained by the County. The rockfall attenuator system on the slope directs rockfall to a rockfall catchment installation on County-maintained roadway shoulder. As this system is necessary to maintain the road for all users, the County will maintain the rockfall catchment system.

Background:

The prolonged intense rainfall events in January and February of 2017 caused the embankment slope above the roadway to destabilize, and localized rockfall events occurred at this location. This segment of roadway was temporarily closed until the rockfall was removed and an 80-foot long flexible rockfall barrier was constructed along the toe of the slope. As a result of the Thomas Fire, this area was denuded of vegetation, and increased rockfall activity occurred at this location. The flexible rockfall barrier was damaged, but was otherwise effective. The County repaired the installation and the roadway re-opened.

The Thomas Fire debris flow event of January 9, 2018 destroyed the flexible rockfall barrier. This event also completely destroyed the adjacent concrete low water crossing over Cold Springs Creek, as well as several hundred feet of roadway, shoulder and support embankment.

This segment of East Mountain Drive, which serves as the access to the Cold Springs Trailhead in the City of Santa Barbara’s Gould Park, is currently closed to the travelling public. The County has ongoing preliminary design projects for the repair of the low water crossing and for repairs to several hundred feet of roadway, shoulder and embankment in the immediate area. This project will mitigate the rockfall hazard present at this location and will facilitate the reconstruction of this segment of East Mountain Drive and the adjacent low water crossing replacement project, as well as continued access to Cold Springs Trail, once it re-opens to the public.

Pursuant to the County’s CEQA guidelines, the Department of Public Works has determined this project is statutorily exempt from further environmental review. With approval of this Board action, the County’s Notice of Exception will be approved for this project and no further action will be necessary.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (SB1)	\$14,062
Federal Aid for Disaster Funds (FEMA)	\$168,750
State Aid for Disaster Funds (CAL OES)	\$42,188
Total	\$225,000

Narrative:

Project construction will be funded through a combination of: Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (SB1); Federal Aid for Disaster funds (FEMA Category C); and State Aid for Disaster funds (CAL OES). In the fiscal analysis section above, preliminary cost estimates were used to anticipate the funding responsibilities of the County, FEMA and Cal-OES. These costs will be reevaluated prior to advertisement of the project for construction. These funds are budgeted in Dept. 054, Fund 0016, Org. 0500, Program 2920, Account 7510.

Special Instructions:

One original fully executed agreement to remain on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Please forward the following to Public Works, Transportation, Attn: Gena Valentine Felix, x3064:

1. Two certified, stamped Minute Orders approving these Board actions
2. One duplicate original fully executed License Agreement
3. One duplicate original fully executed License Agreement previously notarized by the City of Santa Barbara
4. Original Acknowledgement for License Agreement

Attachment:

Attachment A: License Agreement (3 original, one notarized by the City of Santa Barbara)

Attachment B: Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Christian Doolittle, PG, CEG, Project Manager, 739-8777